Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 016407 ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 COME-00 LAB-04 STR-06 AGRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 TRSE-00 FRB-03 OMB-01 L-03 /058 R

DRAFTED BY EB/TEX:ABERRY:HM
APPROVED BY EB/TEX:ABERRY
COMMERCE - AGAREL
LABOR - IKRAMER
STR - MBSMITH
ARA/ECP - WBURSON
ARA/CAR - GSANTILLANA

-----099724 211623Z/20

R 202110Z JAN 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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GENEVA FOR PHELAN

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:ETRD, DR

SUBJECT:TEXTILES

REF: SANTO DOMINGO 7312, STATE 242017

1. AS EMBASSY IS AWARE, GODR OFFICIALS DURING RECENT TEXTILE CONSULTATIONS STRESSED POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES IN NEGOTIATION OF BILATERAL TEXTILE AGREEMENT PRIOR TO MAY ELECTIONS. AT THE SAME TIME THEY FORESAW NO SERIOUS OBSTACLE TO REACHING AN AGREEMENT AFTER THE ELECTION. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO EXTEND INVITATION TO GODR TO SEND A DELEGATION TO WASH., D.C., LATE MAY OR EARLY JUNE FOR PURPOSE OF NEGOTIATING TEXTILE TRADE AGREEMENT. GODR MAY WANT TO STATE PREFERENCE WITHIN THAT TIME FRAME. IF NOT, US TEXTILE DELEGATION SUGGESTS STARTING NEGOTIATIONS MONDAY, JUNE 5. MEETINGS WOULD PROBABLY REQUIRE ENTIRE WEEK.

2. DURING COURSE OF CONSULTATIONS USG OFFICIALS STRESSED CONCERN OVER CONTINUED RAPID GROWTH IN TEXTILE IMPORTS FROM THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC DURING INTERIM PERIOD UNTIL AGREEMENT CAN BE NEGOTIATED. LATEST DATA AVAILABLE SHOWS

THAT DOMINICAN REPUBLIC TEXTILE EXPORTS TO UNITED STATES INCREASED FURTHER FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER, 1977. THE AGGREGATE WAS UP 5 PERCENT TO 26,207,500 SQUARE YARDS EQUIVALENT (SYE) OVER YEAR ENDING OCTOBER, 1977 FIGURE. SIMILARLY, SHIPMENTS OF MAN-MADE FIBER BRAS WERE UP 6 PERCENT FROM 3,571,768 SYE TO 3,791,226 SYE AND MAN-MADE FIBER WOVEN COATS WERE UP 5 PERCENT FROM 1,209,078 TO 1,273,305 SYE.

3. PLEASE POINT OUT TO GODR THAT APPARENT INCREASES OF SUCH MAGNITUDE STRENGTHEN DOMESTIC PRESSURE FOR USG TO IMPOSE UNILATERAL CONTROLS ON IMPORTS OF THE MOST SENSITIVE TEXTILE PRODUCT OR PRODUCTS FROM THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC UNDER ARTICLE 3 OF THE MULTIFIBER ARRANGEMENT (MFA). CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

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